

### Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

#### **LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Cancel)

2. (Cancel)

3. (Cancel)

4. (Currently Amended) A playback apparatus for executing playback of a video stream recorded on a recording medium, comprising:

a reading unit operable to read pictures contained in the video stream from the recording medium;

a playback unit operable to play back pictures contained in the video stream; and

a control unit, wherein

the recording medium has playlist information, ~~and an entry map, and mark information~~ recorded thereon,

the playlist information defines a playback path by indicating a sequence of one or more pairs of a playback start time and a playback end time within the video stream,

each pair of a playback start time and a playback end time constitutes a piece of playback section information defining one playback section,

the mark information includes an identifier of a piece of playback section information and time information indicating a chapter point in a playback section defined by the corresponding piece of playback section information,

the entry map indicates a plurality of entry points in the video stream, in one-to-one correspondence with a plurality of entry times and flags, and

in response to a request for playback following the playback path, the control unit is operable to (i) specify a nearby entry time to a playback start time of the playback path, from among entry times corresponding to a flag set to ON, and (ii) instruct the reading unit to start reading from an entry point corresponding to the specified entry time; and

in response to a request for executing a chapter search function, the control unit is operable to (i) identify the piece of playback section information using the identifier included in the mark information and (ii) instruct the reading unit to read a video stream containing the playback section defined by the identified piece of playback section information, starting from an entry point corresponding to a nearby entry time to the chapter point indicated by the time information included in the mark information.

5. (Cancel)

6. (Cancel)

7. (Currently Amended) The playback apparatus according to Claim 46, wherein  
a picture located at a point corresponding to the time information included in the mark information is for causing decoder refresh,

each entry time with a flag set to ON shows a playback time of a picture for causing decoder refresh, and

a picture for causing decoder refresh is supplied to the playback unit by the reading unit reading the video stream starting from a picture located at an entry point corresponding to an entry time with a flag set to ON.

8. (Currently Amended) The playback apparatus according to Claim 46, further comprising:

a chapter skip unit operable to execute a chapter skip function, wherein

the chapter skip unit is operable to (i) specify a piece of mark information defining a chapter that is immediately preceding or following a chapter containing a current playback point and (ii) cause the ~~chapter search~~chapter search control unit to execute chapter search using the specified piece of mark information.

9. (Currently Amended) A program stored on a non-transitory computer-readable medium for causing a computer to execute playback of a video stream recorded on a recording medium, said program comprising code operable to cause the computer to perform:

~~a step of~~reading pictures contained in the video stream from the recording medium;

~~a step of~~playing back pictures contained in the video stream; and

~~a step of~~controlling, wherein

the recording medium has playlist information, ~~and an entry map, and~~ mark information recorded thereon,

the playlist information defines a playback path by indicating a sequence of one or more pairs of a playback start time and a playback end time within the video stream,

each pair of a playback start time and a playback end time constitutes a piece of playback section information defining one playback section,

the mark information includes an identifier of a piece of playback section information and time information indicating a chapter point in a playback section defined by the corresponding piece of playback section information,

the entry map indicates a plurality of entry points in the video stream, in one-to-one correspondence with a plurality of entry times and flags, and

in ~~said~~the controlling-step, in response to a request for playback following the playback path, (i) an entry time that is near a playback start time of the playback path is caused to be specified from among entry times corresponding to a flag set to ON, and (ii) ~~said~~the reading in the reading-step is caused to start from an entry point corresponding to the specified entry time; and

in said controlling, in response to a request for executing a chapter search function, (i) the piece of playback section information is identified using the identifier included in the mark information and (ii) said reading is caused to read a video stream containing the playback section defined by the identified piece of playback section information, starting from an entry point corresponding to a nearby entry time to the chapter point indicated by the time information included in the mark information.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for executing playback of a video stream recorded on a recording medium, comprising:

~~a step of reading pictures contained in the video stream from the recording medium;~~  
~~a step of playing back pictures contained in the video stream; and~~  
~~a step of controlling, wherein~~  
the recording medium has playlist information, and an entry map, and mark information  
recorded thereon,

the playlist information defines a playback path by indicating a sequence of one or more  
pairs of a playback start time and a playback end time within the video stream,

each pair of a playback start time and a playback end time constitutes a piece of playback  
section information defining one playback section,

the mark information includes an identifier of a piece of playback section information  
and time information indicating a chapter point in a playback section defined by the  
corresponding piece of playback section information,

the entry map indicates a plurality of entry points in the video stream, in one-to-one  
correspondence with a plurality of entry times and flags, ~~and~~

in ~~said~~the controlling-step, in response to a request for playback following the playback  
path, (i) an entry time that is near a playback start time of the playback path is caused to be  
specified from among entry times corresponding to a flag set to ON, and (ii) ~~said~~the reading in  
the reading-step is caused to start from an entry point corresponding to the specified entry time,  
~~and~~

in said controlling, in response to a request for executing a chapter search function, (i) the  
piece of playback section information is identified using the identifier included in the mark  
information and (ii) said reading is caused to read a video stream containing the playback section  
defined by the identified piece of playback section information, starting from an entry point

corresponding to a nearby entry time to the chapter point indicated by the time information included in the mark information.

11. (New) A playback system having a recording medium and a playback apparatus, the recording medium comprising playlist information, an entry map, and mark information recorded thereon,

the playback apparatus comprising:

a reading unit operable to read pictures contained in the video stream from the recording medium;

a playback unit operable to play back pictures contained in the video stream; and

a control unit,

wherein

the playlist information defines a playback path by indicating a sequence of one or more pairs of a playback start time and a playback end time within the video stream,

each pair of a playback start time and a playback end time constitutes a piece of playback section information defining one playback section,

the entry map indicates a plurality of entry points in the video stream, in one-to-one correspondence with a plurality of entry times and flags,

the mark information includes an identifier of a piece of playback section information and time information indicating a chapter point in a playback section defined by the corresponding piece of playback section information,

in response to a request for playback following the playback path, the control unit of the playback apparatus is operable to (i) specify a nearby entry time to a playback start time of the

playback path, from among entry times corresponding to a flag set to ON, and (ii) instruct the reading unit to start reading from an entry point corresponding to the specified entry time; and

in response to a request for executing a chapter search function, the control unit of the playback apparatus is operable to (i) identify the piece of playback section information using the identifier included in the mark information and (ii) instruct the reading unit to read a video stream containing the playback section defined by the identified piece of playback section information, starting from an entry point corresponding to a nearby entry time to the chapter point indicated by the time information included in the mark information.

12. (New) A playback system according to Claim 11, wherein

the playback apparatus further comprises a chapter skip unit operable to execute a chapter skip function, and

the chapter skip unit is operable to (i) specify a piece of mark information defining a chapter that is immediately preceding or following a chapter containing a current playback point and (ii) cause the control unit to execute chapter search using the specified piece of mark information.